Rushing Business.

OLD AMERICAN MAGAZINES

The First Successful One Published by Benjamin Franklin.

It Was Called a Historical Chroniele for All the British Plantations, and Appeared in 1741-Other Ven. tures in the Periodical Field.

The first magazine to appeal to the reading public of this country was edited and published by Benjamin Franklin. The title page of this curious and remarkably periodical, the first numher of which may be seen at the Library of Congress, reads thus:

The General Magazine and Historical Chronicle for all the British Plantations in America. (To be continued monthly.) January, 1741. Phila-delphia: Printed and Sold by B. Franklin.

The frontisplece shows the coronet of the Prince of Wales, with the motto

"Ich dien." A synopsis of current history, abroad and at home, the proceedings of the British Parliament on all questions affecting the American Colonies, and the action of the Assemblies in the several Plantations, occupies more than half the spacer Accounts of, and extracts from, new books published in the Colonies are followed by essays culled from American newspapers, and original mathematical problems, with their answers. A small space is devoted to what are styled, "Poetical Essays;" and the final article is a condensation of news items, with the price of bills of exchange, and prices current in Philadelphia. The only advertisement contained in the publication closes the last page, and is as follows:

There is a ferry kept over Potomack (by the subscriber) being the Post Road, and much the nighest way from Annapolis to Williamsburg, where all Gentlemen may depend on a ready Passage in a good new Boat and able Hands. By Richard Brett, Deputy-Post-Master at Potomack.

The first number of the second American magazine, intended as a rival of Franklin's, was issued during the same year by Andrew Bradford. Only two numbers were issued. Two years later the "American Magazine and Historical Chronicle" was commenced in Boston, and was continued for three years and a few months. In Philadelphia, in 1757, "The American Magazine, or Monthly Chronicle for the British Colonies, by a Society of Gentlemen," completed a volume, and was then discontinued. The same title, "The American Magazine," was chosen by Lewis Nichola for a publication maintained through the year 1769; and in 1771, the "Royal Spiritual Magazine, or the Christians' Grand Treasury," survived a few months,

Seven attempts, five of them in Philadelphia, had been made to establish an American magazine, when success was at length achieved in 1775, in a periodical, which in general arrangement, style, and method, bore a re markable resemblance to those of the present day. The title page of this periodical reads as follows:

The Pennsylvania Magazine; or, American Monthly Museum. Philadelphia. Printed and sold by R. Aitken, Printer and Bookseller, opposite

An engraved frontispiece represents Liberty, surrounded by the symbols of the arts and sciences, with a cannon and a ship in the background, while the supporter on one side is the tree of liberty, with weapons of war resting against it, and on the other a morabove it, and the motto: "Juvat in sylvis habitare." Every number contained graved sheet of orginal music upon the death of Wolfe, but in June the illustration has another significance—the harbor and town of Boston, and parts adjacent; and thenceforward the implements of peace are wholly usurped by

by Mathew Carey in Philadelphia from and no soldiers' festival or hospital fair 1787 to 1792, forms a valuable record of was complete without banjo accompanithe events of the time. Several maga- ments. zines were attempted in Philadelphia, Boston, and New York about the beginning of the last century, but were all short-lived, the "Portfolio of Philadelphia," being the most successful, them professionally, and, as a concession continuing from 1801 to 1825. The "La- to it, interspersed their own performdies' Magazine" was established in ances with imitations of the banjo Philadelphia in 1799, and was the first of the order in the country. Godey's Tournaments were held throughout the "Lady's Book," established in 1830, is sufficiently well-known to present day readers. The first magazine devoted to pete with him in picking for a \$600 gold children appeared in Brooklyn in 1896. medal." Steinway Hall was packed to and was followed by "Merry's Museum," "Parley's Magazine," and many others, the number having increased

It may be noted that the magazine, which may, perhaps, be properly reof Grub-Street," a series of satires upon some of the popular authors of the time. The suc-cess of this publication induced Edward Cave to begin the issue of pamphiet in 1731, called the "Gentle man's Magazine," to be continued This magazine is still in exence, and is, of course, the oldest is int of establishment. The periodi cals previously had been confined to You couldn't pack a Broadwood half a raileor to foreign and do-news, and the miscellanemestic news, and the miscellane-ous literary character of the "Gentleman's Magazine" made it ex-ceedingly popular. The "London Mag-azine" was established the following year by a party of bookseliers, and the Scott's Magazine" in 1739. These werclosely followed by a number of others.

being started in the year 1761 scarcely necessary to say that at the present time almost every department of knowledge, and every art. and industry, has magnzines to its special branch, with often articles of general interest inter spersed to enliven the periodical and render it attractive to the casual read-

The precursors of modern fashion magazines are found in two Parisian lustrated ladtes magazine had its totype in the "Cabinet de la Mo with colored copper-plates, published in Paris in 1785; the "Lady's Magazine," of London, having preceded it, being started in 1772 One of the first instances of a profusely illustrated article occurred in 1812, when the "Poetical Magazine" published the popular "Tour of Dr. Syntax in Search of the Pictur-esque," with the admirable engravings

nus Rowlandson. It is said that the monthly magazine s become an especially favorite form publication in Russia, and it is stated that the demand for such literature is so great that each of the first-class magazines furnishes about 7,000 close-

MISTAKES OF AUTHORS. Many Amusing Slips Made in Fa mous Novels.

When Anthony Trollope pictured Andy Scott as "coming whistling up the street with a cigar in his mouth," he not only proved that he had never made personal experiment of the double feat of smoking cigar and whistling a tune, but he was consciously following in the steps of still greater writers who make their be oes do amazing and impossible things. Those who remember their Robinso Crusoe may recall a most wonderful feat of this here of childhood. When he deided to abandon the wreck and try to swim ashore he took the precaution to re-

move all his clothes, and yet by some strange magic, of which the secret has

been lost, the author makes him, when in this . lition of nature, fill his pockets with biscuits. The great Shakespeare himself had a peculiar faculty for making the impossible happen in his plays. One of the most remarkable of these feats occurs in the fifth act of "Othello," when Desdemona, after she has been duly smothered by the Moor, comes to life again and enters into conversation quite rationally, even in-venting a generous falsehood to shield him from the consequences of his crime, | people. bility of a person recovering conscious ss and speech after being smothered, and of dying after performing such a

feat, scarcely needs pointing out. Shakespeare, too, had a trick of intro ducing the most glaring anachronismsso glaring, in fact, that there is than a suspicion that they must have been introduced consciously for some un-

known reason. For instance, he makes a clock strike in ancient Rome at a time, more than a thousand years before clocks were invented, when such an event would cer-tainly have been the eighth wonder of the world.

Quite regardless of the evidence of geography, he transports Bohemia to the seaside; and he introduces a printing press long before the days of Guttenberg. He calmly introduces a billiard table into Cleopatra's palace, and makes cannon familiar to King John and his barons.

Thackeray was no mean rival to Shakespeare in vagaries of this kind; but in his case they appear to have been the result of pure carelessness and forgetfulness. The most flagrant case, perhaps, is where, after burying Lady Kew and effectively dismissing her from the story, he brings her to life again to help him out with his plot; and in other cases his capacity for mixing up the names of his characters is as confusing as it is won-

Emile Zola, in spite of his carefulness, makes the astonishing statement in one of his novels ("Lourdes") that the deaf and dumb recovered their hearing and sight, an event which savors very much of the miraculous.

The moon has innocently been the cause of much blundering on the part of au-thors. Wilkie Collins in some mysterious fashion made it rise on one important occasion in the west; Rider Haggard in 'King Solomon's Mines" contrives an eclipse of the new moon for the benefit of his readers, and Coleridge ingeniously places a star between the horns of the ent moon as she rises in the east.-

THE PASSING OF THE BANJO.

Bicycle, Golf, and Camera Supplant. ing the Ancient Instrument.

In commenting upon filing a petition in bankruptcy recently, George C. Dobson, the veteran banjo teacher, declared that the day of the banjo was done. The bi-cycle, golf, and the camera, he said, had proved too strong a combination for the instrument whose plunkety-plunks have endured since the Fyramids and which has flourished wherever man has lived. When in 1848 at the Bowery Theatre Joe

Sweeney, the minstrel, introduced it to New York public, it aroused but lantar labeled "Congress," with flags guid interest. It was "a nigger instru-above it, and the motto: "Juvat in sylthe majority at that time. It was at this a full-page illustration, which in the E string, an idea of his own. The next first issue displayed a variety of new inventions in machinery, and an ensons gave a series of concerts at Bar-

The next forward step was in 1850, when Charles E. Dodson, sr., a member of the orchestra in Wallack's Theatre, during the entractes performed a number of front of the entrance, listening atten-banjo solos. The fashionables were interested and amused. The war added to The "American Museum," published its vogue with Northern sympathizers, the upper windows, This was enough.

After the war it languished until 1878 when the addition of frets by the elder Dobson gave to its musical capabilities a much wider range. Violinists and planists saw its capabilities and its danger to

In 1883 the craze was at its height country and the people seemed banjo mad. Charles E. Dobson issued a "Challenge to any player in the world to comdates with the redoubtable Horace Weston at their head, and the next day the papers gave the performance columns With the original Spanish Students who appeared at Booth's Theatre came the

mandolin, and its tremulous tinkle mark garded as the most popular form of ed the first jangle of the banjo's death reading with the masses at the present knell. The students made a tour through day, was first attempted in England the country, and the first wedge to knock in 1730, in the "Memoirs of the Society out the banjo had been driven in. And, alas! where is the banjo now?

The career of George Dobson as a banjo player is full of pathos, for it is the gen eral history of the rise and fall of a very picturesque instrument, if not delightfo in itself, delightful in its suggestion. Yet we should expect to see golf and the can era, and even the bicycle itself die out ut-terly before the banjo.

You couldn't pack a Brasilwood half a rille— You mustn't leave a fiddle in the damp— You couldn't raft an organ up the Nile. And play it in an equatorial swamp. I travel with the cooking pots and pails— I'm sandwiched 'tween the coffee and the perk-And when the dusty column cheeks and tails. You should hear me spur the regiment to walk!
With my 'Pilly-willy-winky-winky popp!''
(Oh, it's any tune that comes into my head!) So I keep 'en moving forward till they drop; So I play 'en up to water and to bed.

Thus it speaks through Kipling .- New

Poisonous Silk Stockings

(From the Hospital.) In producing certain delicate colors in silk, chloride of tin is used as a mo daunt; and it is said that unless great engines are found in two Persian odicals, styled the "Courrier des vesautes," commenced in 1758, and "Courrier de la Mode," started ten its later. The present style of little and the present care is taken a large proportion of it re A case is reported from Vienna of a wom an who suffered from attacks of sis in the lower extremities, with numb ness, a sense of coldness, and a peculiar jerkiness of the legs in walking. She noticed that whenever these symptoms were the worst her feet were colored yellow, and it was found that this staining was caused by light yellow siik stockings which she were. They were analyzed and considerable quantities of tin found. The should not wear pretty sliks next their skin in hot weather unless they can sure they are not mordaunted with tin salts. Colors which are "fast" in rela-tion to ordinary washing are frequently readily soluble in perspiration.

ONLY GHOSTS AS TENANTS

Weird Stories About Old House in Washington.

Strange Noises Drive Away Ocen pants and Furnish Gossip for the Superstitious - Boys Alarmed by Apparitions in Haunted Grounds

There are in Washington, and probably in every other city, for that matter, dilapidated looking old houses standing among elegant and modern buildings, marring the appearance of the surroundings by their appearance Very often tenantless, sometimes mysteriously occupied, with windows broken and cracked doors and shutters, sadly in need of paint, with grass growing between the crevices of the front pathway and steps, if stuccoed with the plaster peeling off in strips and patches-these houses seem as much out of place as a pauper in the midst of an assembly of well-to-do

There are often strange stories connected with such houses tales of "spooks" holding high carnival at night in the rooms and driving tenants away in fear and trembling. Every resident of this city can probably recall such houses. The story of their existence in the midst of a thriving neighborhood is probably a prosaic one based fundamentally on the fact that the price asked by the landlord for the property is too high, but the popular mind will not be satisfied with prosaic fact, and "ghosts" and "hobgoblins" are brought in to lend their aid in accounting for the presence of the forlorn structure in a satisfactory manner.

To account for the origin of these tales of haunted houses is sometimes impossible. There is a rumor current among the juveniles of a certain neighborhood that such a house is tenanted by "ghosts" and the youngsters take a fearful delight in daring one another when the shades of night have made the time propitious to go up the front steps and peer in at the windows and ring the bell-or inaugurate a game of follow-the-leader in the tangled and weed-covered back garden. Such exciting proceedings are usually terminated by an alarm given by one of the party, when immediately each youthful member, feeling vividly that a ghost is after him, makes a precipitate rush, and the investigating urchins come together under the nearest light and tell fearfully of what they have seen, such narratives being generally remarkable for imaginative in-Some bold and reckless vention. spirits there are who, ignoring all supernatural subjects whatever, scrawl in chalk on the walls of the haunted house sentences derisive of the terrors

of the ghost. An old gentleman of this city, and a member of the Oldest Inhabitants' Association, recalls an incident that happened in his young days, which he affirms to be his first and last supernatural experience. It seems that the old mansion in Georgetown once occupied by Baron Bodisco, the Russian Minister, was reported and believed to be The boys in the neighborhood of the house, of which the narrator was one were in the habit, as is usual in such cases, of affecting to despise the ghost, of which they had, nevertheless, a very wholesome fear. This ghost, who seems not to have been remarkable for originality and who manifested himself by the manner common to his kind, of rapping, but never coming in, had long been the terror of the neighborhood, and had rendered the mansion he inhabited impassable after nightfall to the nervous. The boys, including the narrator, on ping was heard as though at one of The urchins took the steps in a bound, and never stopped running until they were at a considerable distance from the fearful house.

It was afterward ascertained that the ghostly tapping was caused by the branch of a tree which crossed one of the windows, and, moved by the wind, beat perceptibly against the glass. This experience and its subsequent explanation is probably the counterpart of many others, though in some cases the explanation is unfortunately left out. It would, indeed, be difficult

to furnish an explanation of the facts as narrated in some instances, as these are so extraordinary as to stagger credulity. Whether to impute such narrations to a diseased imagination, a love to astonish and confound the hearer, or an absolutely truthful recital of actual occurrences witnessed is sometimes, indeed, a very puzzling matter. There are, unquestionably, people living in this city who have, to the best of their belief, lived in haunt ed houses, in which they are convinced they witnessed the most astounding and unaccountable phenomena. To recall an instance in point, the narrator of which was of unquestionable veracity: A certain house in the city was rented by a married couple. A stair case in this house was very dark and steep, and it was rumored that the wife of the landlord, who had previously tenanted the place, had fallen cowr these stairs and was instantly killed. Both the gentleman and his wife heard what they described to be groans, as of a human being in extreme agony, proceeding apparently from the foot of the dark staircase, and continuing at intervals during the night. They were, up to that time, unacquainted with the tragic event which had happened in the house. The landlord called in person, one day, to collect the first month's rent. On that occasion, and during the course of a pleasant conversation on indifferent topics, a sound resounded through the room as though a body had fallen from the top to the bottom of the stairs, which opened into the apartment, and near the foot of which the landlord was sit ting. The noise was as if a body had fallen with a frightful thud at the very feet of the stairway. The land-lord started back, with an outery and

expression never to be forgotten. Nothing was to be seen, but there was

omething so ghastly about the whole

affair, especially taken in confunction with the story of the death of the landlord's wife, heard shortly after-ward by the tenant, that the abole was soon again vacant. was soon again vacant.

Stories of haunted houses in this
city could be multiplied to a very
startling extent, but as the two cited may be taken as characteristic samples, no more need, perhaps, be said of such abodes, and the vagaries of their ghostly occupants.

A TRAMP HOSTELRY. Boston's Queer Hotel Always De 4

If there is one place about Boston which fore than any other is the abiding place

of tramps it is the property of the Boston and Maine Railroad on Mystic wharf Other places may harbor a few wanderers occasionally; Mystic wharf is the one locallty where the pelice are always certain of making a successful search. Although instant efforts are being made by the mpany to break up the "hobo" co ity, the place still retains its charms for the wayfarers and despite frequent raids

the property is never entirely free from their incursion. Located on the main read between Bos ton and Lynn and yet isolated from other property, the wharf is a particularly entic ing spot for the homeless. A couple of sheds on the east side offer accommodation on winter nights, and the prospective lodgers have no scruples against entering even if the buildings are locked, There are always a number of cars loaded with coal in the yard nd the opportunity to build fire thus afforded is another reason for popularity of the place.

One of the sheds, painted an artistic red, is the most frequented. As many as forty men have been known to crowd into it on cold nights and all efforts to keep a lock on it having been found useless by the railroad employes, its door is now left invitingly unfastened, and the building has come to be known as "Debs' Hotel" by the fraternity of patrons. Breaking into the sheds for shelter is, however, the only objectionable act that the men ever commit. Though several thousand lodge there each year the railroad has never had any of its cars broken into or any of its property stolen other than a small of coal. The lodgers appear to perfectly willing to let things alone and ask only that the same courtesy be extended to them.

Railroad people, however, are not inclined to grant the desired privileges and the general superintendent is ever pre-paring to make a raid upon their haunts. It is impossible for the watchmen to keep the property cleared of the irrepressible visitors, but when augmented by the company's private detectives and a squad of the city's police the inevitable result is a wagon load of prisoners for the Charlestown Court. During the last year the railroad company has waged an earnest war against the offenders and the raids been of frequent occurrence. Only last Wednesday three of the vagrants were brought to court and the only reason that the number was so few was because the season is so warm that most of the tramps have sought the country. At times during the winter the number arrested reaches as high as twenty and on

one occasion last season the officers caught forty one frosty night. To an observer the midnight raid is a source of great amusement. The lodgers are not the kind that are anxious to get arrested and secure a winter's board at the public expense. They are desirous of their liberty and evade every possibility of being caught. The sudden approach of a party of officers is always met with much hustling on their part and any op-portunity of escape is taken advantage of. A first impulse is to take to the water, and if a boat is near they are almost certain to appropriate it. It is always found nearby the next day. In their efforts to escape the men never forget their antipathy to water sufficiently to leap into it, and it is in their efforts to hide under freight cars that they are ivariably caught. Regardless of how frequent the raids may occur there are always some tramps about the property. It is noticed that the same ones do not come two nights in succession, and it is probable that they are willing to run the risk of being arrested for one night for the sake other privileges that it affords,

It is noticeable that the men are of a different sort from those who patronize the Wayfarers' Lodge and similar institutions in Boston. They do not want to saw wood for their night's lodging. They are the real type of tramp and even begrudge the effort necessary to keep out of the clutches of the law.—Boston Transcript.

A GENERAL INJUNCTION. Restraints Were Placed on Every.

thing to Secure Peace. Having secured an injunction restraining the police from interfering with his gambling business, the proprietor of the Gilded Front decided to go home and rest

and be away from the reporters. He had hardly entered the house before his wife complained that the hired girl "Oho, she is, is she?" the saloon and

gambling-house keeper answered; "well we'll see about that. I'm not in politics for nothing." Then he rushed out, and in half an our returned with a big envelope, from

which he took a legal document, saying: "There, just go and read that to her. That's an injunction issued by a judge who is a friend of mine to keep her from leaving as long as we think we want her Well, there's another thing " his wife

next Monday. "No he ain't," said the man who had

access to the injunction mill. "I'll just | rare for an American physician to have see to the matter now, while I have After another brief absence he returned with an injunction which made it impos-

sible for the iceman to raise his price without being in contempt of court,
"Now," he said, "don't bother me for awhile. I need sleep. Business was so good at our place last night that I didn't get a chance to get to bed at all, and I expect there'll be another big rush to night, since the papers have printed all about the police not being allowed to So I must be ready for it. He had not been asleep long, however, when his wife shook him by the shoulder

and said: Michael, I forgot to tell you that I can't stand it here any more unless something is done to keep the cats from get-ting on our back fence at night. They make a horrible racket, and my nerves

"Something will be done," he answered as he dressed himself.

Then he went away again, and presently returned with an injunction "hereby restraining all cats of whatsoever sex. reed, color, age, or previous condition from assembling on the said complainant's back fence, or upon the roofs of the sheds located in the back yard belonging o the complainant aforesaid."

"I guess that'll cure 'em," he said There's nothing like having a good willing friend on the bench in a time of Just then their baby in the next room

set up a howl, and the great jointkeeper's wife said:

guess ahe must be teething.

'Never mind," he said, "Til fix her." Then he made another trip to the office of his friend, the judge, and returned with an injunction restraining the child from making any more outerles on account of her teeth, and "further providing that the aforesaid teeth must under penalty of the court's displeasure refrain from causing

the child hereinbefore mentioned any pain or inconvenience whatsoever." "There," the husband and father said, with an air of one who is conscious of "There," the husband and father said, with an air of one who is conscious of having done his duty, "I guess you'll be able to get along for a day or two. Now I've got to go down to the joint, for I s'pose the dealers and bartenders are all tired out by this time. If things ain't all right around the house let me know tomorrow, and I'll get some more injunctions."—Chicago Record-Herald.

MEDICINES FOR CHINAMEN

A Celestial Manufactures Potions From Rattlesnakes.

Phriving Business at an Establish ment on Four-and-a-Half Street. Serpent Fat Believed by Orientals to Possess Curative Properties

A Chinese merchant, whose place usiness is on Four-and-a-half Street, b ngaged in the most unique business ried on in Washington. He is a dealer in medicines made from rattiesnakes The average Washingtonian would consider snakes of this, or, in fact, of any description, to be among the rarest of the animal kingdom in the National Capital, and such is partly true. There are not many rattlers in the city with the exception of those at the National Zoo and at the various curio stores, what few do find their way here are bought by the Chinese merchant, who converts them into patent medicines of

nore or less virtue. The medicine is advertised, in the aundry ticket language, to cure any ill bottles of salve and poignant, health-inducing elixir are transferred daily from the enterprising manufacturer to th sick Chinaman.

Not all of these potions are made from the rattlesnake, but by far the larger part of the Chinese ointment is derived from the health-giving properties of snake fat. Boiled down, this fat produces a most excellent oil, the properties of which the superstitious Oriental reveres with awe. Other medicines, it is true, are made for Chinese patients. They are from various roots and herbs, but to the mind of a son of the Flowery Kingdom, nothing quite equals, in medical quali-ties, the balm which can be found in the

soft fat of a plump rattler.

The Chinaman does not stand alone in his faith in the power of ratucsnake oil. Other peoples have held the same belief from time immemorial. Foremost among these are the gypsy tribes, to whom the secrets of the virtue of snake oils have long been known. In the trade rattlesnake oil is recognized as being one of the most penetrating of oils, and it is no doubt to this property that the value of rattiesnake oil in medicine is to be prop-erly ascribed. Remarkable cures are said to have been made by a diligent applicabody. But in this the imagination doubtless plays no inconsiderable part. The Chinese claim for snake oil all of the curative qualities known to the science

of medicine. The Chinatown laboratory in which the rattlers are converted into medicine is an imposing and mysterious place, dirty, hung with festooned cobwebs, and littered with strange and curious Chinese jugs and foreign-looking bottles. As in everything else, the Oriental race will have naught to do with up-to-date American methods, and the manufacture of salve is carried on according to the same methods which have prevailed in China for centuries. The operation which witnesses the alchemy of the rattlesnake from a live viper to many imposing bottles of plantment is a most interesting one.

The physician first gets the snake. The rattler once in his clutches the work of re-ducing it to medicine begins. The first step is the death of the monster. The Chinaman, after killing the reptile, deftly removes the poison fangs, cuts off the head. body into a kettle, where it simmers and stews the greater part of the day. solling process continues until the oil has been separated, and is, on a small scale, much like the "frying-out" process once in vogue on an old-fashioned whaler, Just what the next step is in the manufacture of the salve the Chinamen engaged in the business refuse to say. Dark and hidden mysteries of Oriental art play an important part in the process. Other ingredients are thrown into the mixture. They are known only to the Chinese mind, but ne sight of the operation was enough to onvince a Times reporter that Bret Harte was not far wrong when he said that "for ways that are dark and tricks that are vain the heathen Chinee is peculiar."

That which is made in Washington for the local trade is packed in small jars or crocks, the mouths of which are securely sealed with oiled paper or silk. Quantimen of the city. The Chinamen rub it upon their wrists after a hard day's work at the ironing table. It is also claimed for the oil of rattlesnakes that a liberal application, repeated frequently, will cure paralysis in from three to five days. Rheumatism is said to succumb to a treatment of the salve in short order. A large quantity of this oil is used regularly by the Chinamen in Washing-

Most of the Chinese medicine used in this country is imported from China, and said, "that troubles me. The ice man is that which is consumed in Washington going to charge us more for ice, beginning is brought here from San Francisco. The Chinamen in this city suffer bodily pain quite as much as other people, but it is a Chinese patient. When a laundryman is taken ill he goes to one of the Chinese what is known as "Chinatown, and the ure is made according to the methods of the Chinese school of medicine. Charms of all descriptions play an important part Chinese have discovered simple and ex-

cellent remedies. Rattlesnake oil appears to be one of these. Only a limited number of snakes find their way into the Four-and-a-half Street laboratory, but a larger number is soid there in the course of a year than would be imagined. Most of the reptiles are aptured at no great distance from Washington, and are brought in by the garder farmers of the outlying districts. Many rattlesnakes, it is said, are still to be found in the mountains of Virginia.

On the Pacific Slope, where rattlers are are getting all upset. Something must be plentiful, the thrifty Chinaman makes uch medicine from these reptiles. The rattlesnake oil of these Western States also sold here and not entirely among Chinese population.

In the West, also, a medicine for which claimed great curative qualities is ade from the horned toads of the arid deserts. The process for the manufacture of this medicine is simple. The Chinaman procures three or four good-sized toads, uts them in a sarge bottle, and subnerges them with whisky. The concocion is then set in a dark place for sevral days. When overworked, tired, offering from a pain in the back the hleaman relieves his misery with sips r's wife said:
"I don't know what to do with that to impart their beneficial qualities. This child, she frets so. Yesterday I had to is one of the favorite remedies among the carry her in my arms nearly all day. I Chinese of San Francisco and the Pacific Cheer States

AWAKING AN OPERATOR.

Message Travels 8,000 Miles and Crosses the Ocean Twice.

Out among the beautiful green groves of Northampton, Mass., lives Dr. C. H. Crosby, who was once the champion telegraph operator of America. He is an egraph operator of America. He is an M. D. with a large practice, a member of two or three clubs and a prominent scret society man, who has quite outlived the days when the "key" was his constant

Once in a while, however, of an evening when cigars are lit and the company is of he right order he can be induced to tell t good story. Perhaps the rarest of the ot, one that has never been printed, al-hough lots of them have found their way about, is about the time when the French cable people telegraphed 8,000 miles to have him waked up when he was asleep in the next room, not twenty feet away from the operator who received the nessage.

The French line from this country stretched from Duxbury by way of Newoundland to Brest, in France. Dr. Crosby was the responsible night man in the lookout at Duxbury. It was a right in October and the future disciple of Galen had taken his usual station at the key. Between the hours of 8 and 1 o'clock, when the foreign news known in those days as Reuter's cablegrams used to come over the wires, there was usually very little doing, and he dropped off in

transn "Tick" went the little termenter, under eral minutes the New York operator gave it up and thought a minute. There was but one way out of it. The receiving end of the line was in the next room to that of the missing operator, and there was a enquiry would have to be sent the whole length of the company's circuit, a matter

coast of Newfoundland, thence across at his word, and now for three centuries the Atlantic Ocean to Valentia, on the southwest coast of Ireland, and so across to round the cape. Sailors what with the Facility Charles are southwest coast of Ireland, and so across the English Channel to Brest. From the end of the route it was doubled back to St. Pierre et Miquelon, and so slanted down to Duxbury. The whole matter took only about-fifteen minutes.

At about twenty minutes past 9 the man in charge of the French end of the wire, whose table was not more than the ghost vessel.

In the private journal of the late Duke in the next room, began to get intelli-gence. He in a few seconds had recorded somewhat surprising message: "Go into the next room and wake the man there

Crosby was aroused at once and the position explained to him, when he picked up his key and the business of two hemispheres was resumed again.-Boston

A WONDERFUL CLOCK. Chicago.

Frank Bohacek has a wonderful clock, upon which he has been working silently and secretly for nineteen years. It has made him the hero and wizard of Chicago's Bohemia. His name is spoken with fear and reverence by his neighbors who have been permitted to gaze upon the wonderful work which threatens to crowd the old Bohemian watchmaker and his wife out of their comfortable home at 550 Winchester Avenue, the place having be-come too small for them and the clock.

For twenty years the clock has been the dream and one passion of the old the dream and one passion of the old man, and now that it is almost completed he is delighted. It is a giant among England is not infrequently seen the he is delighted. It is a glant among such curiosities and was so large when the work on it was begun that Bohacek had to move from his little home at West Eighteenth and Wood Streets into a two-story frame house, which he built purposely to accommodate the clock Now to get it out he will have to tear down the walls or else take the time square at the base. Its uppermost parts heavy, dark oil, redolent of the Orient, there being no flooring in the second

The one part that remains to be added is an orchestra and a phonographic at-tachment, which will do the talking for ties of this salve are sold to the laundry- the thirty automatons carved by the Bohemian woodcarvers, the only outside assistance Bohacek called to aid him. The largest one is in the centre and on it are represented the sun, the moon, the earth and the four seasons. The sun is successfully imitated by a large red electric globe, which is placed in the entre of the dial.

outside edge is added a world globe. A silver moon revolves about it sonthly, and planet and satellite make the circle around the sun in 365 days. The world globe, or earth, revolves every

twenty-four hours. Surrounding the huge dial the seasons Surrounding the huge dial the seasons are painted and through them the planet and satellite pass accurately. The second dial is of the ordinary clock. The third is a twenty-four hour dial. The fourth is one having three hands, which mark respectively the day, the month, and the week of the year. Inside the clock are located the thirty figures which pass every half hour before an opening above the dials. Here are represented every President from Washington down to McKimley. The others are figures of Uncle Sam, Dewey, Franklin, Columbus, Columbia, and an Indian. The clock rivals the Strasburg clock rivals the Strash wonder, and has thus far cost the maker \$4,000. It is operated by five sixty-pound weights, and will run eight days without winding.—Chicago News.

AN IMPORTANT MESSENGER. A Lad of Mature Years Who Server Money Kings.

He was such a pitiful object that the women in the car on its way through the heart of the financial district had turned to stare regretfully at him.
"Poor fellow!" exclaimed the girl in th

pink shirt waist, "such an occupation at At first sight it seemed there was rea son for her sympathy. The face was that of a man of forty, the hair was grey, and

the garb was that of an ordinary mes-senger boy. Everybody downtown has seen him and everybody knows him. "What a pity," the girl continued,

"What a pity, the girl commodu.

"Oh, I'm not so sure of that," responded her mother. "Why, even though he has age! he has ever remained a boy."

With the girl and the woman was that insufferable young masculine adjunct who msufferable young masculfue adjunct whe knows everybody and everything about own. For the girl and her mother he de-streyed the illusion. "You pity that boy, or rather man," said, with his drawl. "Why, my d said, with his drawl. 'Why, my people, you don't know what you talking about. That's Sammy Barber,

GHOST SHIPS OF THE SEA

Strange Stories Told of the Mysteries of the Ocean.

The "Flying Dutchman" the Best Known of the Many Spectral Ves. sels-A Phantom Craft Which Baunts the New England Coast.

Landsmen boast of their haunted houses and the weird spirits that dance in coun try graveyards at midnight. But there's not a house, no matter how black and dis-mal and how far back from the public road it may be sitting, nor how many murders may have been committed within its walls years ago, that can compare in supernatural terrors with the haunted ships with their crews of dead men that haunt the trackless waves of the ocean. And there's not a ghost on land, no matter how many graveyards he may prowl around, nor how many old mansions he may rattle chains in and groan and disport himself, that can hold up his head for one minute in the presence of one of the gristly, grinning, matted, dank ghosts that ship as A. B. on a ghost ship.

There is an air of vagueness and unreality anyhow about the ocean that makes it naturally a more fit abiding place for ghosts than the prosaic shore. The great At 9 o'clock the New York office called with its centuries of nameless horrors still locked 2 mly in its silent bosom, is the proper place for ghosts. And so it is no wonder that they who go down to the his nose, but the operator heard it not, sea in ships believe as firmly in spirits and After hammering away in vain for sevof men dead centuries agone as they be-

lieve in their own existence.

One of the spectral ships best known to of the line was in the next room to that of the missing operator, and there was a man in charge who could undoubtedly tell what was wrong. To reach him an enquiry would have to be sent the whole.

One of the spectral ships best known to landsmen generally is the Flying Dutchmen was trying to round the Horn some time in the part of the seventeenth century. length of the company's circuit, a matter of 8,000 miles or so. So calling up North ship was repeatedly driven back by consydney, at Cape Breton, he began his task.

From Cape Breton the enquiry was captain, Vanderdecken, swore a fearful oath he would round it if it fook till Judgment Day. Vanderdecken was taken on the leak of Newfoundland, thence across at his word, and now for three centuries fear and trembling when their ships are rounding the Horn, afraid that every moment may bring into view the spectral Flying Dutchman. It is believed that every appearance of the Flying Dutchman will be followed by death or misfortune to some of the crew of the ship that sees

Clarence and his brother, the present Duke of Cornwall and York, during their cruise on the Bacchante in 1879-1882, an account is given in their experience with the Flying Dutchman, which they fell in

with near Sydney. The Duke wrote: "July 11, 1881, at 4 a. m., the Flying Dutchman crossed our bows. A strange red light, as of a phantom ship all aglow, in the midst of which light the masts, spars, and sails of the brig. 200 yards distant, stood out in bold reilef. As it came The Remarkable Work of a Man in up the lookout man on the forecastle reported it as close on the port bow. The night being clear and the sea calm, thirteen persons altogether saw it, whether it was Van Diemen of the Flying Dutchman or who else must remain unknown. The Tourmaline and Cleopa-tra, which were sailing on our starboard bow, flashed to ask whether we had seen the strange red lights. At a quarter to 11 a. m. the ordinary seaman who had this morning reported the Flying Dutchman fell from the foretopmast crosstrees and was smashed to atoms * * At the next port we came to the admiral also

was smitten down." ghost of the ship Palatine, whose app ance scudding in the teeth of a gale is always supposed to betoken disaster

The Palatine was a Dutch trading vessel that was wrecked on Block Island in 1752. The wreckers, who by means of false beacons along the shore had lured the ship to its doom made short work of piece apart and set it up again. It stands nineteen feet high and is fifteen feet everything movable and then set fire to the hull to concent the traces of their scream was suddenly heard from the cabin and a woman clad in white, but wreathed around in red flames, was seen standing in front of the mainmast. She had been a passenger on the ship and had hidden below to escape the wreckers. She burned to death in sight of the people along the shore, and since that time the ghost of the Palatine, with the figure of white standing in front of the mainmast, has been seen hundreds of

times by sailors cruising in those waters. The Dead Ship of Salem is well known off the Massachusetts shore years ago the ship was ready to sail to England, when two mysterious people, before, came hurriedly aboard and secured passage. They were a young man and woman of strange but forbidding beauty. The ship was detained so long by adverse winds that the townspeople began to suspect witchcraft and prophesied disaster. But the skipper jeered at their fears, and when the wind changed put out to sea

on Friday morning.

No word or sign of that ship or its living freight was ever seen or heard again. sels reported having met a craft with shining hull and luminous spars and sails spinning along with every cloth drawing in the teeth of one of the wildest gales A crew of skeletons manned the ship. while on the quarterdeck stood arm in arm a handsome pair, a young man and

woman. Down deep in solltude of the lonely everglades the sailors say is a ghostly pirate ship doomed to forever cruise about in the muddy bogs and shallow grass-

grown lakes of the great swamp. Three centuries ago a buccaneering crew that raided the Spanish main captured a merchant brig off Cape Florida and speedily rided it of its rich cargo. Furious at the length of the chase and the brave resistance of the gallant crew of the merchantman the pirate captain cruelly forced everyone of the crew to walk the plank, with fiendish ingenuity keeping the skipper's wife to watch their New York Commercial Advertiser.

Temperature and Marine Life.

(C. C. Nutting, in Science.) The general impression that high tem-perature is more favorable than a low one for the best development of animal life is certainly not true of marine animals in general, whatever may be the facts concerning some special groups. If other conditions are favorable, a luxuriant faum will be developed in any tempera-ture short of the freezing point of sait water. But a change of temperature, if a sudden one, is sometimes the cause of oceanic tragedies of frightful extent, a fact illustrated by the following example. The tilefish is a deep water species living upon the bottom on what is known as the Guif Stream slope, off the New England Coast. Here the water is normally comparatively warm coming as it does comparatively warm, coming as it does from the superheated region of the Guif of Mexico.

of Mexico.

During a series of unusually severe gales in the summer of 182 this mass of water was pushed aside, as it were, and replaced by the coaler water. As a result, millions and millions of these fish were killed, and their dead bodies literally covered the surface of the sea for hundreds of square miles. So great was the slaughter that for years it was feared that the tilefish were exterminated. Fortunately, however, the region has been recolonized, probably from the South, and numerous tilefish have been taken during the last two seasons.